

## DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe the below named inventors are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **YEAST STRAINS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LACTIC ACID**, the Specification of which was filed on **March 7, 2000** as Application Serial No. **09/508,277**.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 and/or § 365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, PCT international application(s), and United States provisional application(s), listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, PCT international application, or United States provisional application, having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			Priority Claimed
PCT/EP98/05758	PCT	September 11, 1998	Yes
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No
MI97A002080	Italy	September 12, 1997	Yes
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No

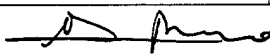
I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 and/or § 365 of any United States application(s) and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, which becomes available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:


(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)

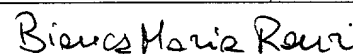
I hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls be addressed to Raymund F. Eich, Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C., 7676 Hillmont, Suite 250, Houston, Texas 77040, (713) 934-4065

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE OF MY OWN KNOWLEDGE ARE TRUE  
AND THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF ARE BELIEVED TO BE TRUE;

AND FURTHER THAT THESE STATEMENTS WERE MADE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS AND THE LIKE SO MADE ARE PUNISHABLE BY FINE OR IMPRISONMENT, OR BOTH, UNDER SECTION 1001 OF TITLE 18 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE AND THAT SUCH WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS MAY JEOPARDIZE THE VALIDITY OF THE APPLICATION OR ANY PATENT ISSUED THEREON.

Inventor's Full Name:	DANILO		PORRO
Inventor's Signature:			
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date:	01 06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8. Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	MICHELE		BIANCHI
Inventor's Signature:			
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Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8. Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	BIANCA	MARIA	RANZI
Inventor's Signature:			
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Inventor's Full Name:	LAURA		FRONTALI
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Laura Frontali</i>		
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Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
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Inventor's Full Name:	MARINA		VAI
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Marina VAI</i>		
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Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
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Inventor's Full Name:	AARON	ADRIAN	WINKLER
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Adrian Winkler</i>		
Country of Citizenship:	Netherlands	Date:	01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
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Inventor's Full Name:	LILIA	ALBERGHINA
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Lilia Alberghina</i>	
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date: 01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy	
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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**

ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER  
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Washington, D C 20231

SEPTEMBER 18, 2000

PTAS

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\*101419261A\*

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT**

jc979 U.S. PTO  
10/068137  
02/06/02

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 703-308-9723. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, ASSIGNMENT DIVISION, BOX ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4, 1213 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY, SUITE 320, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

RECORDATION DATE: 06/29/2000

REEL/FRAME: 010953/0692  
NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

PORRO, DANILO

DOC DATE: 02/01/2000

ASSIGNOR:

BIANCHI, MICHELE

DOC DATE: 06/01/2000

ASSIGNOR:

RANZI, BIANCA MARIA

DOC DATE: 06/01/2000

ASSIGNOR:

FRONTALI, LAURA

DOC DATE: 06/01/2000

ASSIGNOR:

VAI, MARINA

DOC DATE: 06/01/2000

ASSIGNOR:

WINKLER, AARON ADRIAN

DOC DATE: 06/01/2000

ASSIGNOR:

ALBERGHINA, LILIA

DOC DATE: 06/01/2000

2027.547000

CHECKED BY:	
1ST CHECK	<i>[Signature]</i>
2ND CHECK	<i>[Signature]</i>

010953/0692 PAGE 2

ASSIGNEE:

A.E. STALEY MANUFACTURING CO.  
2200 EAST ELDORADO STREET  
DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62525

SERIAL NUMBER: 09508277  
PATENT NUMBER:

FILING DATE: 06/29/2000  
ISSUE DATE:

MARY BENTON, EXAMINER  
ASSIGNMENT DIVISION  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

209030 0692 010953

**ASSIGNMENT**

FOR GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, the receipt, sufficiency and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned, do hereby:

SELL, ASSIGN AND TRANSFER to A.E. STALEY MANUFACTURING COMPANY (the "Assignee"), having a place of business at 2200 East Eldorado Street, Decatur, Illinois 62525, the entire right, title and interest for the United States and all foreign countries in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the application for United States Letters Patent, Serial No. **09/508,277** which has been filed on **March 7, 2000** and is entitled **YEAST STRAINS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LACTIC ACID**, such application and all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue and all other applications for patent which have been or shall be filed in the United States and all foreign countries on any of such improvements; all original and reissued patents which have been or shall be issued in the United States and all foreign countries on such improvements; and specifically including the right to file foreign applications under the provisions of any convention or treaty and claim priority based on such application in the United States;

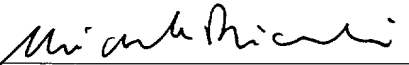
AUTHORIZE AND REQUEST the issuing authority to issue any and all United States and foreign patents granted on such improvements to the Assignee;

WARRANT AND COVENANT that no assignment, grant, mortgage, license or other agreement affecting the rights and property herein conveyed has been or will be made to others by the undersigned, and that the full right to convey the same as herein expressed is possessed by the undersigned;

COVENANT, when requested and at the expense of the Assignee, to carry out in good faith the intent and purpose of this assignment, the undersigned will execute all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue, and all other patent applications on any and all such improvements; execute all rightful oaths, declarations, assignments, powers of attorney and other papers; communicate to the Assignee all facts known to the undersigned relating to such improvements and the history thereof; and generally do everything possible which the Assignee shall consider desirable for vesting title to such improvements in the Assignee, and for securing, maintaining and enforcing proper patent protection for such improvements;

TO BE BINDING on the heirs, assigns, representatives and successors of the undersigned and extend to the successors, assigns and nominees of the Assignee.

Signature:  Date: 01.02.2000  
Name: Danilo Porro

Signature:  Date: 01.06.2000  
Name: Michele Bianchi

Signature: Bianca Maria Ranzi Date: 01.06.2000  
Name: Bianca Maria Ranzi

Signature: Laura Frontali Date: 01.06.2000  
Name: Laura Frontali

Signature: Marina Vai Date: 01.06.2000  
Name: Marina Vai

Signature: Aaron Adrian Winkler Date: 01.06.2000  
Name: Aaron Adrian Winkler

Signature: Lilia Alberghina Date: 01.06.2000  
Name: Lilia Alberghina